

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. ^B4669

1. Name

Historic 1400-1428 North Bethel Street
and / common

2. Location

street & number 1400-1428 North Bethel Street
city, town Baltimore
state & zip code Maryland 21205 county

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	X occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
X building(s)	X private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	X yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			X private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name
street & number telephone
city, town state & zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber
street & number Clarence Mitchell Courthouse folio
city, town Baltimore State Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title
date federal state county local
depository for survey records
city, town state & zip code

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check One

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check One

☒ original site
☐ moved:
date of move: _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This row of sixteen two-story, two-bay wide vernacular Queen Anne-style brick houses with shed roofs and sheet metal and stepped brick cornices were built in 1905-06 by Ephraim Macht, a builder of working class houses in East Baltimore. Most of the houses retain their original brick facades, which were originally painted, but some have been formstoned. After the use of wood was outlawed for cornices in 1892, sheet metal and stepped-back bricks became one of the more popular alternatives, particularly for inexpensive housing.

The houses are two stories in height, 11'5" wide and occupy lots 68' deep. Each house is three small rooms deep and there is no back building. The houses are constructed in common bond with a header row every five rows and have been painted. Each house has a hooded chimney located near the front and rear of the house. The shed roof is capped by a continuous sheet metal and stepped brick cornice consisting of a sheet metal crown molding set above three rows of progressively recessed stretcher bricks punctuated by four rows of slightly projecting, yet progressively recessed headers. The plain frieze area beneath consists of three more rows of slightly projecting stretchers.

The door and window openings have segmentally arched brick lintels consisting of a double row of headers, with plain tympanums. The sills are wood. Few original sash remain, but they seem to have been 1/1. The doorways had double-light transoms and show a variety of replacement door types. The houses sit on fairly high basements. Each front door is reached by five concrete steps.

3. Significance

Period	Area of significance	check one & justify			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theatre	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other: specify	

Specific dates 1905-06

Builder/Architect Ephraim Macht

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This group of houses is significant in that it represents the level of architectural stylishness achieved by many builders of small street houses in the late nineteenth century. The houses were built by Ephraim Macht, a well-known Baltimore builder, according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's working class neighborhoods of the period c. 1880 to 1910. Recognizing that workers held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of two-story house sizes (and prices) in the new neighborhoods going up to serve the expanding factory districts ringing the harbor and north-east of the central city. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a half of a city block and built 14' to 15'-wide two-story houses on the main streets, and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks. Typically, in this period, main street houses might sell for \$1,300 to \$1,500; small street houses for \$450 to \$600.

Occasionally, the builder retained ownership of his small street houses to provide income for himself as rental properties, or he sold them to other investors/absentee landlords. In this case Macht sold all 16 houses to other Jewish investors immediately. All of the small street houses in this block remain rental properties at least into the 1920s. In this way people of varying means could afford to live in the same block. If they couldn't afford the approximately \$550 purchase price of the small street houses, then they *could* afford the \$8 or so a month it would cost to rent one, while they saved to be able to buy their own home later.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse*
(New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name / title Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward

Organization The Alley House Project

date June 2000

street & number 1306 Carrollton Ave.

telephone

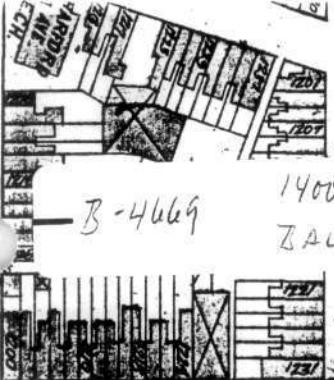
city, town Baltimore

state & zip code Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

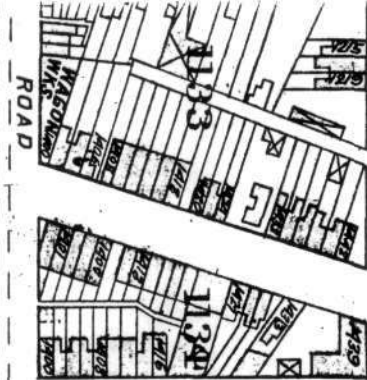
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of property rights.

Return to:
DHCP/DHCD
Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032-2023

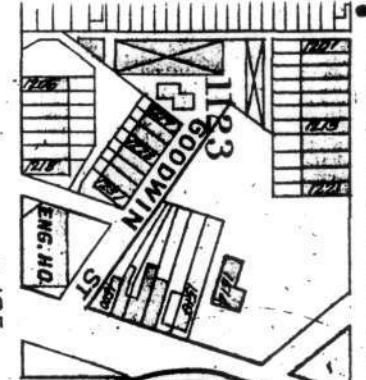


1400-1428 N. Bethel St
BALTO. MD

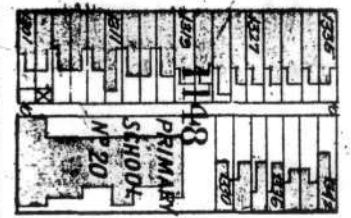
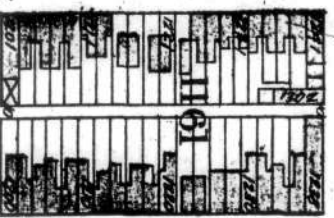
B-4669



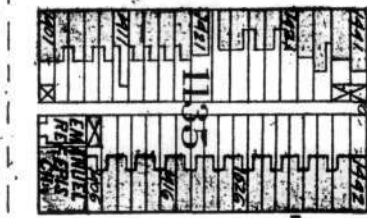
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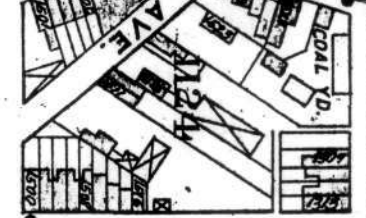
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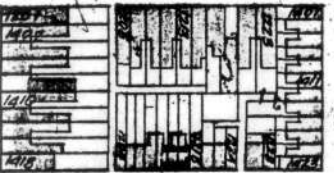
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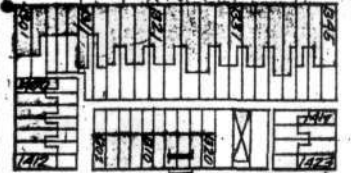
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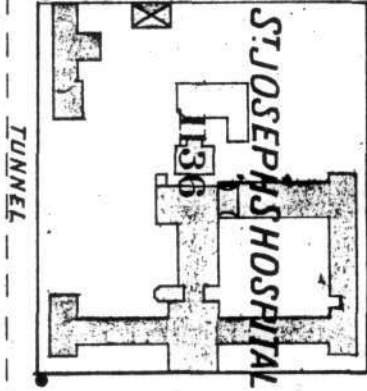
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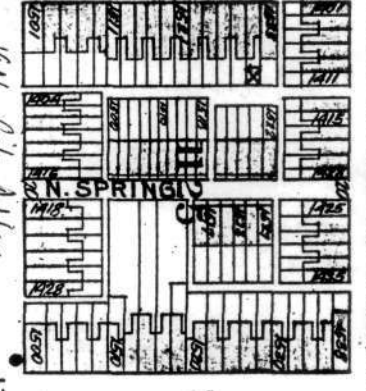
N. SPRING ST



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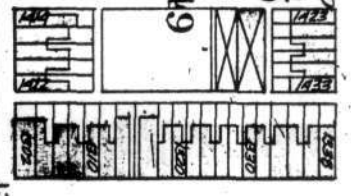
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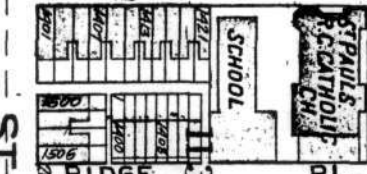
N. SPRING ST



N. SPRING ST

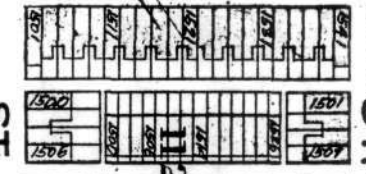


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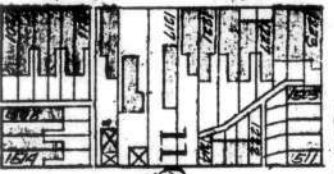


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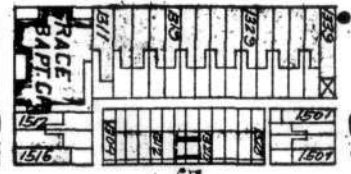
RIDGE PL



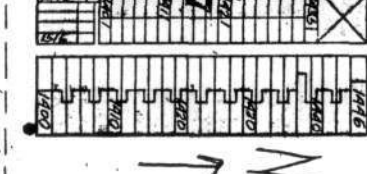
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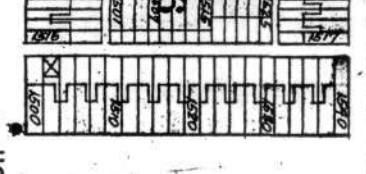
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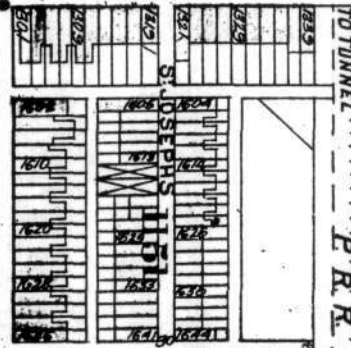
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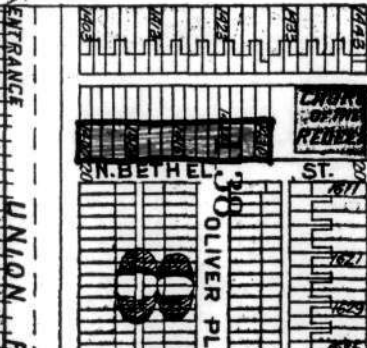
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HALESLEY PL

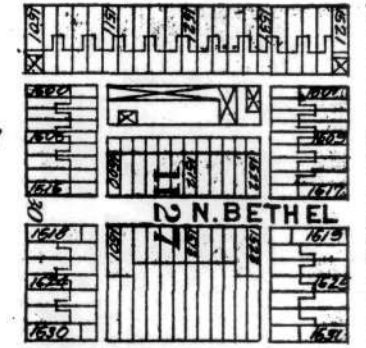


ST



ST. JOSEPH'S

N. BETHEL



N. BETHEL

NORTH

1906 City Atlas

8

B-4669
1400-1430 N. Bethel Street
Block 1138, Lots 102-116
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.

1400 Demolished





1400 Bethel WS 1400-1428
WS

100

1061028 0211 4 14 32

B-4669

1400-1428 N. Bethel St.

BALTO, MD

W. Nield

11/96

MD SAPO

1/2



1400 Bethel WS
WS Neil H

B-4669
1416 N. Bethel St.
Baltimore, MD
W. Nield
11/96
2/2

1051028 0211 8 14 x 2"

140